

Mason Dixon Conference - Winter 2012

Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2012 10:00 am – 11:10 am

The meeting was called to order by John Bull (MDC Chairman). The meeting was taped and for brevity purposes, these minutes represent the highlights of the meetingⁱ.

Executive Board Roll-Call		
<i>Title</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Present at Meeting</i>
Chairman	John Bull (MD-III)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vice Chairman	Mike Pollinger (DE-I)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Secretary	Keith Chase (VA-II)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Treasurer	Richard Clark (NC-XVI)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
International Rep	Eric Mines (MD-I)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

State Representatives and Other Appointed Positions Roll-Call		
<i>Title</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Present at Meeting</i>
Delaware State Rep	Bert Littleton (DE-I)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kentucky State Rep	Ruben Gardner (KY-II)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maryland State Rep	Steve Smith (MD-I)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
North Carolina State Rep	JJ Lightner (NC-XVII)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tennessee State Rep	T.C. Hicks (TN-III)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Virginia State Rep	Mike Hart (VA-III)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
West Virginia State Rep	Carl Pace (WV-II)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chaplin	Mike Williams (MD-I)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Safety Officer	D.W. Conners (VA-V)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sergeant-at-Arms	Paul Domingoes (VA-II)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Agenda Items
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Welcome – House Keeping Note...Due to the impending foul weather we will try and push this meeting along as quickly as possible.2. Moment of Silence.3. Opening Prayer – Mike Williams (MDC Chaplin).4. Pledge of Allegiance – Recited by all in attendance.5. Reading of Blue Knights Pledge – Chairman Bull.6. Chapter Roll-Call and Report – Keith Chase (MDC Secretary). Roll-Call was conducted and the below listed Chapters were represented at the meeting:

Delaware-I	Maryland-I	Maryland-III ¹	Maryland-IV ²
North Carolina-II	North Carolina-VIII	North Carolina-XIII	North Carolina-XVI ³
North Carolina-XXI	North Carolina-XXIV	Tennessee-VI ⁴	Tennessee-XII
Virginia-I	Virginia-II	Virginia-III	Virginia-V
Virginia-XIII	Virginia-XVII	West Virginia-II	

There are 78 Chapters in the conference and 19 Chapters were represented at the meeting for a percentage of 24% in attendance. There were 58 members, spouses and guests in attendance at the meeting.

7. Tennessee-XII was recognized as being the newest Chapter to be chartered under the MDC and is in attendance at their first Conference Meeting.
8. Host Chapter President (Lonnie Loyal, VA-III), thanked all for attending.
9. Chairman’s Remarks:
 - a. Please double check the Chapter Listing (passed around) to ensure accuracy.
 - b. Take the time to look at the new MDC website...it is a work in progress.
10. Secretary’s Report (Keith Chase):
 - a. The meeting minutes from the Fall Conference were completed and sent out to the State Reps, in October to be forwarded on to the Chapter Presidents. Motion to accept the minutes was made from the floor, seconded and voted unanimously. The minutes are posted on the MDC website.
 - b. The Newsletter and Ride List were sent out in January. Initially there was discussion to post a newsletter three or four times a year...that is a lot of work, so currently we are going to publish two a year...one in January and one in the summer. The items are listed on the MDC website as well. Send any pictures or articles to the Secretary to be included in the newsletter.
11. Treasurer’s Report (Rick Clark): Financial Report – As of 02/16/2012 The financial report was provide in detail...This online version does not contain the actual numbers but these can be found in the President’ Section on the website or by contacting your Chapter President.
 - Deposits
 - MDC Dues Deposit
 - QM Sales Deposit
 - Int’l Check for Members
 - Misc Income
 - Debits
 - Convention Expenses
 - Chaplin Expenses
 - Executive Officer’s Registrations
 - Website Invoice
 - Newsletter Printing/Mailing Cost

Detailed copy of the Treasurer’s report has been posted to the Secretary’s Book.

A motion to accept the financial report, as provided, was made from the floor, seconded and voted unanimously.

- a. We have 71 of 78 Chapters that have paid their dues (91%).

12. International Representative’s Report (Eric Mines)

- Since our last Conference meeting (Fall 2011), the International Board has met on two occasions (October 12th and January 18th). Below are highlights since the MDC Fall 2011 meeting:

¹ John Bull produced a voting authorization letter from James Miller - Chapter President
² George Delozier produced a voting authorization letter from Lennie Rose - Chapter President
³ Richard Clark produced a voting authorization letter from John Rogers - Chapter President
⁴ John Holtzclaw produced a voting authorization letter from Chris Carney - Chapter President

- Membership Cards: The new membership cards are being sent out from the International Office, some Chapters have already starting to receive them. The new cards have the start date of the member on the top...remember, this is the last start date so if you had a break in membership, it list the last start date...consecutive years. If you have documentation that states otherwise, provide a copy to the Chapter President to send up to International.
- Using the Internet for Renewal: There was a proposal by the European Conference to use the internet to handle the renewals. It has been approved but the office staff is currently working on the procedure and some security concerns.
- Running for International Office: Anyone running for International Office needs to notify the BOG Chairman (Bob Seeley) by 1 May.
- International Scholarship Application: Is posted on the International website.
- Sales Items: Please ensure that members and loved ones are aware of how to dispose of Blue Knights trademarks items...they should not be sold on ebay or at yard sales.
- Charity Stats: Over one and a half million dollars was donated during fiscal year 2011. This puts the Blue Knights donations of goods and services over \$15,615,000 since records have been kept. Please remember that charity stats can be reported online in the members' only section. Please try to report this info as donations are made and not all at once. Also please make sure that the information you submit is complete as some reports have been received without even identifying the chapter.
- Blue Knights News: The 2011 sales catalogue will be in the fall issue of the newsletter.
- International Board Agenda Items:
 - Sexual Harassment policy was approved.
 - A Dues Increase was approved, which results in a by-law change. The change permits Chapters to assess up to \$50 in Chapter Dues. An additional \$25 may be assessed if the Chapter has a club house that requires maintenance or cost. These figures are in addition to what must be sent to International.
 - Sales items that have been approved but do not make it into the catalog, through no fault of the Chapter...will be published, free of charge, in the next BK International publication.
 - A proposed by the European Conference to change the date of the 2014 Convention to be any week in the months of June or July...for 2014 ONLY, was approved.
 - The MDC proposal to outsource all future international elections as voted on by the conference was tabled again. The Election Procedure Committee is leaning toward recommending internet voting with ballot, upon request.

NOTE FROM REP: *Please remember that my report is a synopsis of board activity. Read the full minutes which are currently on the International website and currently mailed to each Chapter President.*

13. Chairman Bull recognized the VIP's in attendance:

- a. Bob Flanagan (International President).
 - i. Greetings from the Office Staff...Betsy Smalls and Jana Clark. They have 430 Chapters renewed already.
 - ii. The International website has the application online where it can be filled and sent and/or printed. There is a glitch whereas it can't be saved but the office is working on it.
 - iii. Note on new membership cards...The start date listed is the last start date...consecutive years of service.

- iv. Sales permit renewals...will go out of Headquarters on 1 April and must be returned by 1 June.
 - v. 2012 budget is in place...reminder to the conference of the eligibility for \$500 in recruitment money.
 - vi. Note from DJ Alvarez (International VP) 1 May is the deadline for recruitment and retention awards. He is working on a new magazine proposal. As of the end of 2011 we had 636 Chapters 20,550 members. MDC has 78 Chapters with 2918 members. New Zealand-I is our newest Chapter and our newest country for a total of 24 countries.
- b. Lon Strayer (BOG Vice Chairman).
- i. 1 May is the deadline for the 2014 Convention Bid.
 - ii. 1 May is the deadline for the Distinguished Service and Life Saving Awards.
 - iii. BOG elections will be this year in Tyler, Texas (at the Convention). Lon indicated that he was going to run for the BOG Chairman position. As of this report, there are three (3) members running for BOG Vice Chairman...Chuck Duran (TX-II), Dan Moeser (TN-VI), and Cal Ennals (NJ-V).
 - iv. Recruitment Flyers...contact Lon if you need some.
- c. Past International Presidents – Connie Flanagan and Ronnie Young were recognized as being in attendance.
- d. GLRC Rep (John Gordon)
- i. John stated he is also running for the BOG Chairman position.
 - ii. GLRC has a scholarship fund in the name of John's son, who was killed by a texting driver. The scholarship supports kids that make Eagle Scout.
 - iii. GLRC Conference is the last weekend in March in Niagara Falls.
- e. Tri-State Treasurer (Keith Bowers PA-XIV).
- i. Gettysburg will be the Fall Conference (Columbus Day Weekend).
 - ii. Spring Meeting/1 Overnight is on 5 May in Williams Port, PA.
14. Vice Chairman's Remarks: (Mike Pollinger):
- a. Please reach out to those members that have not renewed. The membership numbers mentioned by Bob make us two (2) short of Tri-State for the largest conference.
 - b. Check the applications of potential members to ensure correctness and they are qualified.
 - c. Any changes to Chapter Officers please ensure those get reported to the Conference and International.

Representatives Reports

This will be a summary of topics presented by each reporting member...more elaborate details may appear in Newsletter, if reported.

1. Delaware State Representative – Albert Littleton (DE-I):
 - Delaware has 1 Chapter with 70 members.
 - *Note: See the newsletter for more information.*
2. Kentucky State Representative – Ruben Gardner (KY-II): Report provided by Mike Pollinger:
 - Kentucky has 15 Chapters.

- *Note: See the newsletter for more information.*
- 3. Maryland State Representative – Steve Smith (MD-I):
 - Maryland has 8 Chapters.
 - *Note: See the newsletter for more information.*
- 4. North Carolina State Representative – JJ Lightner (NC-XVII): No Report
 - North Carolina has 23 Chapters.
 - *Note: See the newsletter for more information.*
- 5. Tennessee State Representative – TC Hicks (TN-III): No Report
 - Tennessee has 11 Chapters.
 - *Note: See the newsletter for more information.*
- 6. Virginia State Representative – Mike Hart (VA-III):
 - Virginia has 16 Chapters.
 - Reminder that VA-II (Culpeper) will be hosting the 2012 Fall Conference.
 - *Note: See the newsletter for more information.*
- 7. West Virginia State Representative – Carl Pace (WV-II): No report
 - West Virginia has 5 Chapters.
 - *Note: See the newsletter for more information.*
- 8. Conference Chaplin – Mike Williams (MD-I): Please contact Mike for all issues regarding members or family members that you wish to involve him with.
- 9. Conference Safety Officer – DW Conners (VA-V):
 - Will hold another Rider’s workshops at Rocky Mount for the Spring Conference.

Old Business

1. Recruiting and Retention Funds... The Conference is considering not receiving the International Minutes via mail and being able to collect an additional \$500.00 in funds. The Chairman has spoken with about half of the President’s that wish not to receive the Minutes and collect the funds. A motion from Ed Martin (WV-II) and a second from John Weinstein (VA-II) to stop receiving the International Minutes and receive \$500.00 additional in recruiting funds was made. It was stated that the Minutes will be available online at the International and MDC websites. Motion passed unanimously. Chairman will advise the International Office.

New Business

1. MDC Elections: Reminder that nominations for the MDC Board Positions will be in Rocky Mount, in May during the Spring Conference Meeting. You must be at the meeting to be nominated, as outlined in the MDC By-Laws, dated 2005.
2. Website: We hope you like the new look...we are still working on it and it is a work in progress. If there are Chapter Officer changes, just click the update chapter link and email the details...this link goes to the MDC Board and to the International Office.
3. MDC Scholarship: The MDC Funds two (2) \$500 scholarships per year. Below is the link to the 2012 MDC scholarship application. NOTE...the due date is 16 April 2012 and the essay is a requirement and

must accompany the application.

- a. Pdf format - <http://db.tt/bY1zHqG8>
- b. Word format - <http://db.tt/s19Y7IPK>

4. As part of the new web package...we are working on standard email addresses for Board Members and State Reps (i.e. Chairman@MDC.org)...more details to follow.
5. Bids for 2013 Winter Meeting:
 - a. Delaware-I bid for Rehoboth Beach...Received 7 Votes.
 - b. Tennessee-XII bid for Johnson City, TN...Received 11 Votes.

Announcement of Mason Dixon Conference Meetings

1. Spring Conference Meeting - 2012:

- Hosted By: North Carolina-XXI
- Location: Rocky Mount, NC
- Dates: 25-27 May 2012
- Information: <http://www.bkncxxi.org/page.php?9>

2. Fall Conference Meeting - 2012:

- Hosted By: Virginia-II
- Location: Culpeper, VA
- Dates: 31 August - 3 September 2012
- Information: www.bkva-ii.org

3. Winter Conference Meeting - 2013:

- Hosted By: Tennessee-XII
- Location: Johnson City, TN
- Dates: 15-17 February 2013
- Information: Pending

Announcement of International Conventions

1. 2012 Convention:

- Hosted By: Texas-XXXIV
- Location: Tyler, Texas
- Dates: 23-27 July 2012
- Info: <http://www.blueknightstx34.org/convention2012.html>

Good of the Order

1. NC-III lost one of their Past Presidents (Carl "Stretch" Hanes) on Thursday night in a building fire.
2. Lon Strayer presented information regarding a charity program he supports called "Hunt of a lifetime". It is a non-profit organization that grants hunting and fishing trip to kids who have been diagnosed with a life threatening illness. Please look them up and support the organization, if you can.
3. The SRC came up with a Disaster Plan. We will be putting a committee together to develop a MDC plan.

Adjournment – 11:10 am. Next meeting 10:00 am / 27 May 2012 at the 2012 Spring Conference

Contact Information	Website: www.bkmdc.org	<i>Secretary's Contact</i> Email: keith.a.chase@comcast.net Phone: 703-893-1823 Fax: 571-748-4240
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ⁱ File size is 95.4MB in MP3 format.